

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-6, and 8-29 are pending in the present application after this amendment cancels claims 2 and 7. Claims 14-29 have been withdrawn in response to an earlier restriction requirement. Claims 1 and 6 are amended by this amendment to include the features of canceled claims 2 and 7, respectively. No new matter is added by the amendments. In view of the amendments and the following remarks, favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner acknowledges that claims 2 and 7 include allowable subject matter. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to include the features of allowable claims 2 and 7, respectively, and therefore claims 1 and 6 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 3-6 depend from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 1 is allowable. Claims 8-13 depend from claim 6 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 6 is allowable.

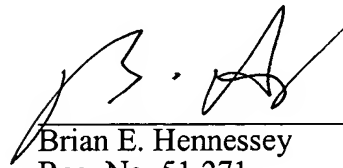
CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Serial No.: 10/767,230

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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